

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

August 2005



Last monthly publication of *Workforce Observations*

Beginning in October 2005 the *Workforce Observations* for January, April, July and October will review a full quarter of labor market performance and related topics. In between quarterly publications, readers can obtain data by contacting the author or seeing the Office of Economic Advisors web site <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea>.

Adams County's unemployment rate is closer to its typical level than it has been since last October, but still remains well above its typical level. This spring and summer, construction and leisure & hospitality employment estimates have risen without reaching year-ago levels.

Forest County's unemployment rate is above its typical level for the first time since February. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate has been below its year-ago level since last August, but the margin is smaller now than it has been at any point in the last 12 months.

Langlade County's unemployment rate remains below its typical level and continues to follow the general contours of a typical seasonal pattern. This July's transportation, warehousing & utilities employment estimate fell a bit more quickly than last July's.

Of the nine months after October 2004, six have seen **Lincoln County's** unemployment rate below its typical level, mostly because the rate did not rise as high as it usually does in the

winter. Last July the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was nearly 70 jobs or 5.7 percent above its year-ago level. This July it is nearly 40 jobs or 3.4 percent below its year-ago level.

Except for May, **Marathon County's** unemployment rate has been below its typical level since last December. The transportation, warehousing & utilities employment estimate is following the same pattern it did last year at a level roughly 100 jobs or 3.5 to 3.6 percent above its year-ago level. The financial activities employment estimate

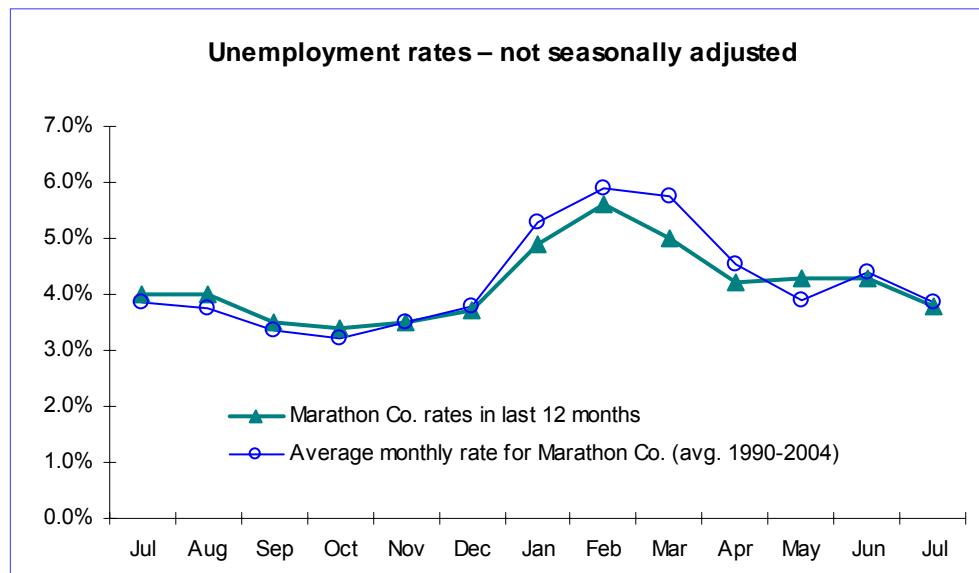
Since last October, **Portage County's** unemployment rate has generally (though somewhat unsteadily) been trending closer to typical levels. The June-to-July gain of 840 jobs in the manufacturing employment estimate seems encouraging, but the estimate remains as far below its year-ago level as it has been at any time in the last 12 months. The education & health services employment estimate is at its highest level of the last 24 months and is as far above its year-ago level as it has been in the last 12 months.

After dipping below typical levels in March and April, **Vilas County's** unemployment rate has been above its typical level by margins roughly consistent with rates seen last autumn and winter. In July of 2004, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate was roughly 570 jobs or 19.1 percent above its year-ago levels.

This July, the

leisure & hospitality employment estimate is about 370 jobs or 14.2 percent below its year-ago levels. The spring and summer estimates did not pick up as quickly this year as last.

Apart from anomalous swings in May and June, **Wood County's** unemployment rate has generally trended closer to typical levels since February. The transportation, warehousing & utilities employment estimate reached its 24-month peak in June, and was almost as far above its year-ago level in July as in June.



has not followed last year's trend very closely, but is at its highest level of the last 24 months and is further above its year-ago level than it has been at any point in the last 12 months.

Oneida County's unemployment rate has been well above its typical level since May. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate continues to follow last year's seasonal pattern, albeit at a slightly higher level of employment. The construction employment estimate has not been gained as many jobs this spring summer as it gained last spring and summer.

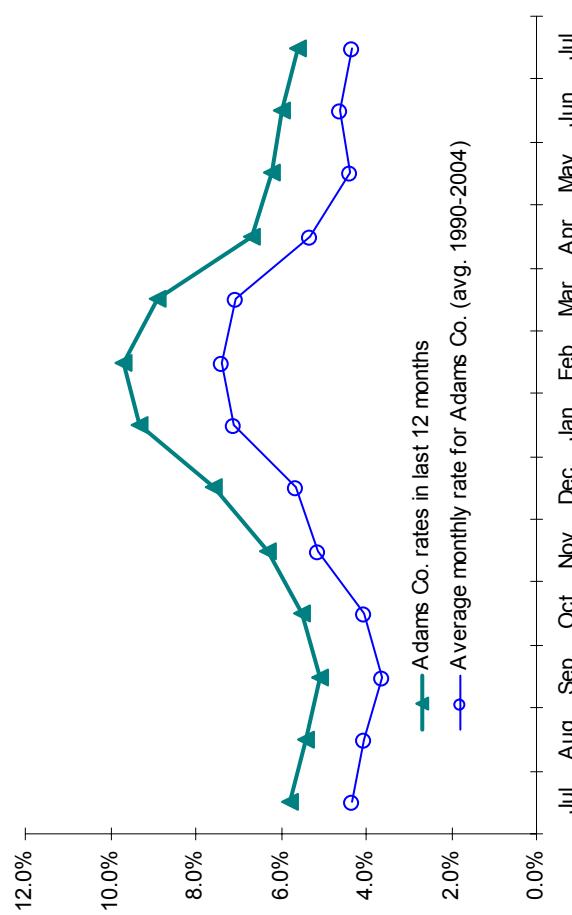
Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted															
	Wisconsin			Adams County			Forest County			Langlade County			Lincoln County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	2,844,100	-25,200	19,900	4,300	-90	-50	3,600	-30	-70	7,900	-350	70	12,000	-90	-130
Const., min'g & nat. resources	149,700	2,300	6,600	290	10	20	200	10	20	520	10	-10	450	10	-40
Manufacturing	511,900	4,000	3,200	440	10	10	380	0	0	1,640	-10	90	3,600	20	-80
Trade (wholesale & retail)	435,400	1,200	1,400	510	-40	-20	320	-10	0	1,580	0	-40	1,610	0	-40
Transport, Wrhsng, Utilities	106,500	-2,300	600	120	-10	-10	160	-10	0	360	-30	0	330	-40	-10
Financial activities	159,700	200	1,000	100	0	10	120	0	0	340	-10	30	890	0	50
Education & health services	376,400	-3,200	2,700	550	0	10	390	20	0	970	0	10	1,050	-10	-20
Leisure & hospitality	274,400	2,700	1,900	700	20	-110	280	50	-10	860	10	-10	1,120	10	-40
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	446,400	200	3,200	480	0	20	240	0	10	760	10	20	1,000	0	20
Government	383,700	-30,300	-700	1,160	-80	10	1,480	-90	-90	860	-320	20	1,980	-70	20
Civilian Labor Force**	3,081,700	-11,250	-33,910	9,700	-90	-250	5,100	-30	-160	10,900	-330	-280	16,000	-100	-430
Employed	2,941,000	-3,720	-24,090	9,200	-40	-210	4,800	0	-190	10,300	-280	-160	15,300	40	-370
Unemployed	140,800	-7,530	-9,820	540	-50	-30	300	-30	30	560	-50	-120	710	-130	-70
Unemployment rate	4.6%	-0.2%	-0.2%	5.6%	-0.4%	-0.2%	6.0%	-0.5%	0.9%	5.1%	-0.3%	-1.0%	4.4%	-0.8%	-0.3%
	Marathon County			Oneida County			Portage County			Vilas County			Wood County		
	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change	Jul 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all industries*	71,600	-800	500	19,300	50	-350	34,000	20	-70	9,300	220	-170	42,000	-570	-770
Const., min'g & nat. resources	3,300	0	0	1,490	30	-10	1,430	10	30	1,050	10	40	1,790	60	40
Manufacturing	18,900	0	200	1,320	0	-100	5,600	840	240	320	0	-20	6,800	10	-460
Trade (wholesale & retail)	13,400	0	200	4,400	0	-50	5,700	0	210	1,590	20	10	5,900	-90	-230
Transport, Wrhsng, Utilities	2,800	-100	100	420	-20	10	1,770	-10	-40	130	-30	10	3,300	-100	160
Financial activities	5,200	100	200	560	10	10	4,000	30	-60	370	0	30	1,230	0	60
Education & health services	7,600	0	100	3,600	10	-160	3,700	30	290	720	10	10	10,400	90	-80
Leisure & hospitality	5,100	0	-200	2,900	280	30	3,200	20	10	2,600	520	-370	3,300	60	10
Info, prof, bus. & other svcs	8,200	0	0	2,500	60	10	4,400	0	130	750	20	40	4,900	-100	80
Government	7,100	-800	-100	2,100	-320	-100	4,200	-910	-410	1,800	-320	90	4,400	-480	-350
Civilian Labor Force**	75,000	-410	-1,010	21,300	170	-740	40,400	100	-1,170	12,700	310	-440	39,600	-410	-1,740
Employed	72,100	-30	-810	20,400	280	-660	38,700	290	-730	12,100	380	-390	37,600	-210	-1,240
Unemployed	2,900	-380	-200	920	-110	-80	1,740	-200	-440	510	-70	-50	2,000	-200	-500
Unemployment rate	3.8%	-0.5%	-0.2%	4.3%	-0.6%	-0.2%	4.3%	-0.5%	-0.9%	4.0%	-0.7%	-0.2%	5.1%	-0.4%	-0.9%

Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Numbers ≥ 2,000 are rounded to nearest 100; numbers < 2,000 rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers; results rounded.

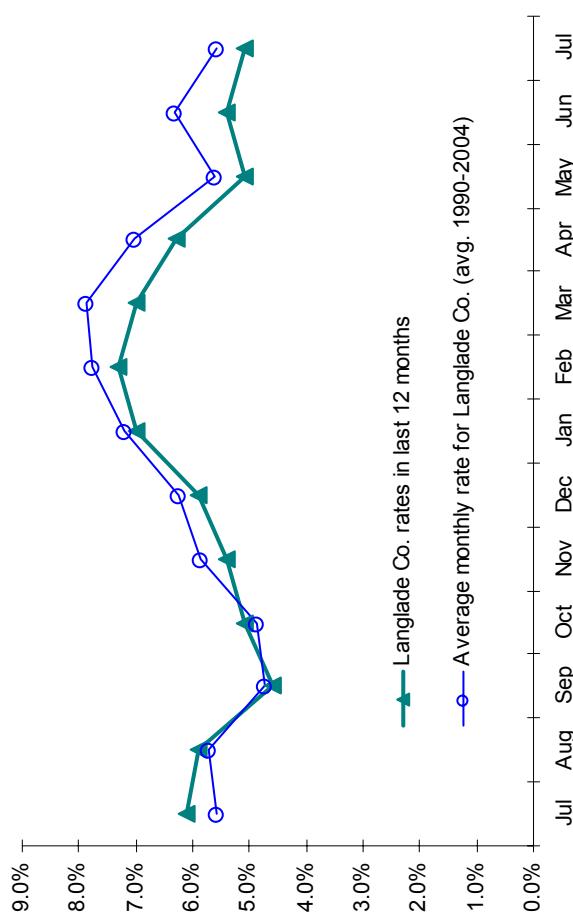
*Includes jobs with employers in area. ** Includes labor force participants residing in area.

For more information call (608) 242-4885, email dan.barnette@dwd.state.wi.us, or see <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oear>.

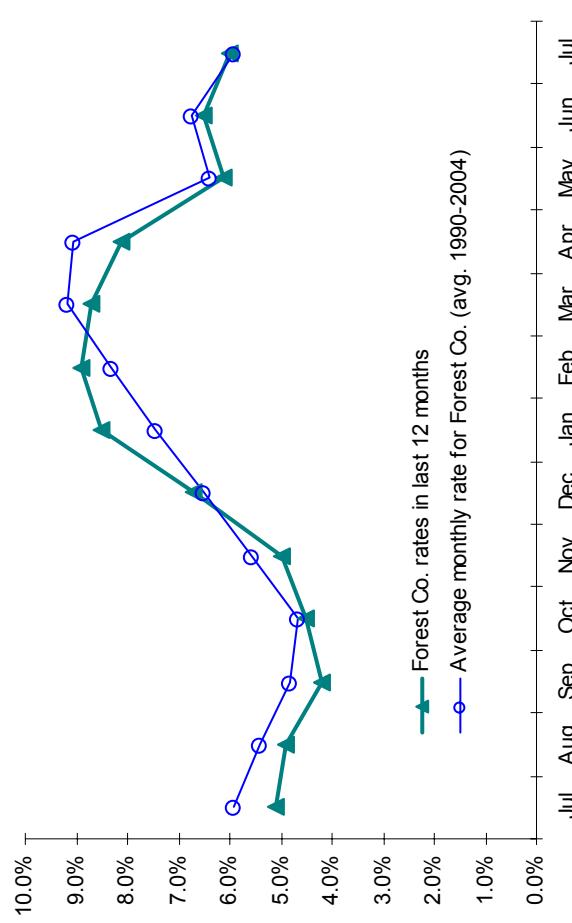
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